

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Hirokazu SO et al. Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/596,155 Examiner : Not Yet Assigned  
(National Stage of PCT/JP2004/017767)

I.A. Filed : November 30, 2004 Confirmation No. : 2850

For : INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM DATA PROCESSING  
APPARATUS AND DATA RECORDING METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report and an International Preliminary Report on Patentability (Chapter I) with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/017767, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. Copies of the International Search Report (in Japanese and English) have been filed concurrently with the present application and should thus have already been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

- (1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-296156, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and
- (2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-251407, together with an English language Abstract of the same, and patent family members Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-124262, together with an English language Abstract of the same; U.S. Patent No. 5,872,905 to ONO et al., which issued on February 16, 1999; European Patent Publication No. EP 0 795 813; and European Patent Publication No. EP 1 276 048.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Search Report and International Preliminary Report on Patentability (Chapter I), as ascertained with respect to the international claims by the International Examiner, are set forth in the International Search Report.

Applicants further submit the following documents.

- (3) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-188701, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicants note that this document is cited on page 2 of the specification of the above-captioned application;
- (4) ISO/IEC 9293, "Information Technology – Volume and file structure of disk cartridge for information," (1994). Applicants note that this document is cited on page 2 of the specification of the above-captioned application. Reproduction of this article is prohibited by a non-disclosure agreement, and thus, a copy of this document is not provided herewith;

- (5) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005-0216684 to SO et al, which was published on September 29, 2005;
- (6) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005-0231765 to SO et al, which was published on October 20, 2005;
- (7) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006-0050622 to SO et al, which was published on March 9, 2006;
- (8) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/546,453 to INOUE et al, which was filed on February 19, 2004;
- (9) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/577,418 to MAEDA et al, which was filed on April 27, 2006;
- (10) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/578,373 to SO et al., which was filed on May 5, 2006; and
- (11) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/578,372 to MAEDA et al., which was filed on May 5, 2006.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii) and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii) if the U.S. patent application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patent, patent application publications and patent applications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Also, when the above-noted pending applications are published, the Examiner is respectfully requested to list their publication numbers on a PTO 1449 Form (or PTO 892 Form) to confirm consideration thereof.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material

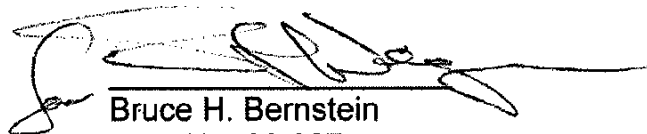
P30050.A02

and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign and international documents, with the exception of document (4), are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hirokazu SO et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bernstein", is written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
P30050Application No.  
10/596,155INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Hirokazu SO et al.Filing Date  
I.A. Filed November 30, 2004Group  
Not Yet Assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5 8 7 2 9 0 5	02/16/99	ONO et al.			
	2005 /	0 2 1 6 6 8 4	09/29/05	SO et al.			
	2005 /	0 2 3 1 7 6 5	10/20/05	SO et al.			
	2006 /	0 0 5 0 6 2 2	03/09/06	SO et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	2003	- 2 9 6 1 5 6	10/17/03	JAPAN				
	9	- 2 5 1 4 0 7	09/22/97	JAPAN				
	10	- 1 2 4 2 6 2	05/15/98	JAPAN				
		0 7 9 5 8 1 3	09/17/97	E.P.O.				
		1 2 7 6 0 4 8	01/17/03	E.P.O.				
	2001	- 1 8 8 7 0 1	07/10/01	JAPAN				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1	English Language Abstract of JP 2003-296156.
	2	English Language Abstract of JP 9-251407.
	3	English Language Abstract of JP 10-124262.
	4	English Language Abstract of JP 2001-188701.
	5	ISO/IEC 9293, "Information Technology-Volume and file structure of disk cartridge for information", (1994).
	6	U.S. Patent Application No. 10/546,453 to INOUE et al., filed February 19, 2004.
	7	U.S. Patent Application No. 10/577,418 to MAEDA et al., filed April 27, 2006.
	8	U.S. Patent Application No. 10/578,373 to SO et al., filed May 5, 2006.
	9	U.S. Patent Application No. 10/578,372 to MAEDA et al., filed May 5, 2006.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.